

REMARKS

Claims 8-17 are now present in this application.

Claims 8 and 10 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

An Office Action was issued in the above-identified application on March 25, 2005. In response to this Office Action, an Amendment was filed on August 25, 2005. After the filing of this Amendment, a communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office was mailed on October 25, 2005. This communication alleges that the August 25, 2005 Amendment was not fully responsive. As such, the foregoing amendments have now been made.

In particular, the Examiner alleges that the "terminal end" is not supported by the specification or drawing. Claim 8 recites a tubular receptacle. This receptacle has a terminal end or a base, such as 44. The Examiner is reminded that Applicants can be their own lexicographer. As such, claim 8 as originally presented should have been clear. Nonetheless, in order to avoid any confusion, the foregoing amendments to the claims have been made. As such, the tubular receptacle is now recited as having a "base." This can be base 44 as seen in Fig. 4, for example. There is an external cylindrical member such as 46 which is mounted on this base. In addition, there is an internal cylindrical member 50, also mounted on the base 44. The internal cylindrical member is spaced from the external cylindrical member. As is explained in the specification, a threaded element such as elongated supporting member 44 can be screwed onto the internal cylindrical member 50. As this is screwed, the hinged member or hook means 54 will dig into the walls of the bore 40. This is described on page 6, lines 20-23 of the specification, for example. This claimed arrangement is disclosed in the original specification.

The foregoing reference to the specification and drawings has merely been done for illustration and should not be considered as limiting of the claims. This claim is directed to the original disclosure since there is only one embodiment described in this application. While variants are possible, the tubular receptacle of claim 8 is directed to the originally filed subject matter. Certain details of this claimed subject matter are perhaps now more clearly brought out in independent claim 8, but it is nonetheless still the same invention.

The Examiner is incorrect in issuing a Notice of Non-Responsiveness. Nonetheless, in view of the foregoing amendments, no confusion should remain. Both the August 25, 2005 Amendment and the instant Supplemental Amendment should be entered and considered by the Examiner.

As noted in the August 25, 2005 Amendment, the Examiner is requested to acknowledge the claim for priority, as well as receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

In addition, claims 1-7 stood rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Also, claims 1-7 stood rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Morris, U.S. Patent 4,012,155. These rejections are respectfully traversed. For the reasons given in the August 25, 2005 Amendment, it is respectfully submitted that these rejections should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Any reference to "the terminal end" in discussing the claims in the August 25, 2005 Amendment should now be understood as referring to "the base."

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Application No. 10/671,733
Amendment dated December 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 25, 2005

Docket No.: 3587-0112P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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